



The Weather

Today: Sunny, still cold, 35°F (2°C)
Tonight: Clear, much milder night, 28°F (-2°C)
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and warmer, 50°F (10°C)
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Volume 127, Number 10

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, March 9, 2007

E-mail Service Interrupted For 4,000 Users

By Nick Semenkovich
STAFF REPORTER

Over 4,000 community members lost e-mail access early Wednesday morning in an outage that still affects some users.

One of MIT's five e-mail servers, po14, crashed sometime before 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7, said Jeffrey I. Schiller '79, MIT Network Manager for Information Services and Technology.

Schiller said the problem arose when po14 experienced a kernel panic (similar to Windows's blue screen of death), triggering an automatic restart of the mail server. Upon restart, the server detected file system corruption that required manual repair by IS&T technicians.

By Thursday afternoon, over 3,000 of the 4,000 users had e-mail restored, though there was a large backlog of incoming messages.

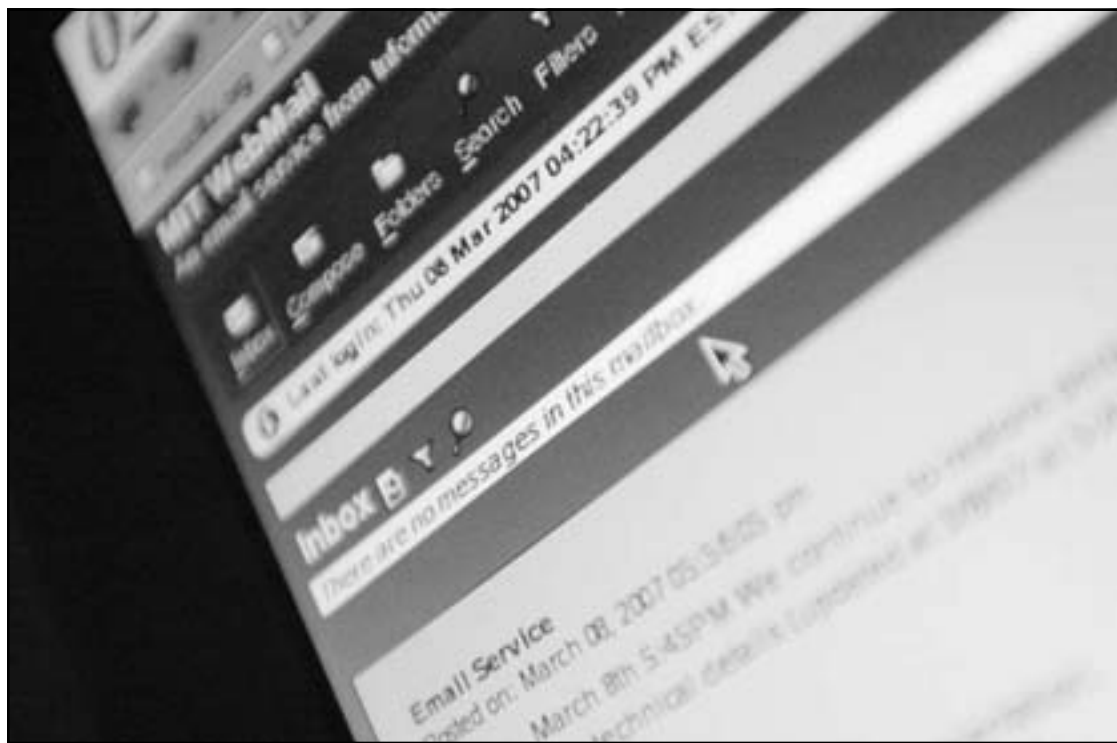
As of Thursday evening, roughly 500 users on po14 were still without e-mail; Schiller estimated the service would be restored for everyone by 9:30 a.m. Friday.

Because of MIT's redundancy and backups, Schiller said he was "not too worried about data loss."

On Wednesday, he estimated a maximum of 10 messages across the whole system would be corrupted, a number he revised to three on Thursday. Those three messages had likely been saved in regular backups, he said.

Users on po14 who forward their e-mail to external servers, such as Gmail, were unaffected by the outage.

While the root cause of the outage is unclear, IS&T's 3DOWN Service Status page characterized the



MARTIN SEGADO

Shortly after 8 a.m. Wednesday morning, one of MIT's five e-mail servers stopped functioning, disrupting service to approximately 4,000 faculty, students, and staff. Some e-mail accounts were still unavailable as of press time.

outage as extremely rare. According to Schiller, IS&T simply "didn't [fore]see this happening."

IS&T has localized the error to the file system on po14. MIT maintains a RAID file system on e-mail servers, so that mail messages are preserved across multiple hard drives to prevent failure. Unfortunately, something caused a small amount of data corruption on the RAID system and eventually triggered the kernel panic that caused po14 to restart, said Schiller.

On reboot, po14 ran the application 'fsck,' which is designed to check and repair corrupted files. While operating, fsck reads a small amount of data from every single file on a system. Fsck ran for nearly 24 hours, trying to repair the nearly 27 million files on po14, said Schiller. "It [was] mind-numbing," he said.

MIT experienced a similar e-mail outage in the first week of May 2003. During that incident, a bug in the operating system of the

mail server po11 caused file corruption and triggered a file consistency check.

"In that outage, fsck took four hours to run," said Schiller, a fact he attributed to a smaller quota size of 100 megabytes. The current mail quota is 1 gigabyte.

Because fsck was taking too long, IS&T halted the program Thursday morning and switched to "plan B," copying the files from po14 to a

E-mail, Page 11

Faculty Debate Jewish Delicacies

By Yuri Hanada

Students and members of the MIT community filled 10-250 Monday night to watch six MIT faculty lecturers and professors argue the superiority of one of two Jewish delicacies – the latke, a fried potato pancake, and the hamentash, a triangular fruit-filled cookie.

Contending for the latke were Joseph M. Sussman, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, David I. Kaiser, Professor of Science, Technology, and Society, and History Lecturer Steven E. Ostrow. Mathematics Professor David S. Jerison, Michael Ouellette, Music and Theater Arts senior lecturer, and Jeremy M. Wolfe, Brain and Cognitive Sciences senior lecturer, defended the hamentash. Donald R. Sadoway, professor of Materials Science and Engineering, served as the evening's moderator.

A coin toss prior to the event gave the hamentashen team the opening remarks. In the battle that followed, both sides used contradictory mathematical, historical, literary, and scientific "evidence" to prove their respective claims.

The latke is a total nebbish

Jerison, the first speaker of the

Debate, Page 9

Student's Race Complaint Undecided For Princeton

By Yi Zhou
STAFF REPORTER

Nearly four months after Jian Li, an Asian student at Yale University, filed a complaint against Princeton University for racial discrimination in the admissions process, a decision remains to be reached by the US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights regarding Princeton's actions.

Li's complaint has sometimes mistakenly been referred to as a lawsuit, which "gives an impression that I'm doing this for personal gain when in fact that's not really the case ... I don't stand to gain anything from it ... I did it for the principle of it."

Li targeted Princeton following a study published by two of the university's professors which emphasized the importance of affirmative action in the college admissions process. Chang Y. Chung and Thomas J. Espenshade, the authors of the June 2005 report, asserted that the consideration of race does not have a significant impact on white applicants' admissions to elite universities, while African American and Hispanic applicants are provided an

advantage in the process. Conversely, "Asian applicants are the biggest winners if race is no longer considered in admissions," according to the report. Without racial preferences, "nearly four out of every five places in the admitted class not taken by African American and Hispanic students would be filled by Asians." The study drew on admissions data from the fall of 1993 and 1997.

Li also referenced empirical data to support his argument. Following the passage of Proposition 209, which outlawed race-based preferences in California in 1996, the percentage of Asian-American students at UC Berkeley increased from 34.6 to 42 percent by 2006. At the University of Washington, the percentage rose from 22.1 to 25.4 percent within six years of a similar ban on affirmative action.

"There was much more pressure to compare myself to other Asians," said Joshua J. Lim '09. With "only a few spots for Asians ... you would really have to distinguish yourself as an Asian instead of as a human being."

Affirmative Action, Page 9



GHEORGHE CHISTOL—THE TECH

Linguistics Professor Noam A. Chomsky answers questions in 54-100 after giving a talk on Wednesday night. The talk focused on Middle East Foreign Policy and was organized by the MIT Model United Nations Society.

In Short

¶ **The Tech** will moderate the debate between candidates for Undergraduate Association President and Vice President this Sunday at 8 p.m. on the first floor of the Student Center.



Set your clocks forward, it's that time of the year. Daylight Saving Time starts this Sunday at 2 a.m.

News

Broad Institute receives \$100 million for psychiatric research; will use for genomic analysis.

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WORLD & NATION

Democrats Propose Iraq Pullout by Fall 2008

By David Stout

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

House Democratic leaders intensified their debate with President Bush over Iraq Thursday as they announced legislation that would pull American combat troops out of Iraq before the fall of 2008.

“Only then can we refocus our military efforts on Afghanistan to the extent that we must,” Speaker Nancy Pelosi said. She said the Iraq withdrawal deadline would be attached to legislation providing nearly \$100 billion requested by the Bush administration for the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns and money to expand health care for veterans.

Rep. David R. Obey of Wisconsin, the chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said the leadership’s proposal “will essentially redirect more of our resources to the war against al-Qaida and the Taliban in Afghanistan, fighting the right war in the right place against the people who attacked us and who are giving al-Qaida sanctuary.”

But despite the Democrats’ advantage in the House (233 seats, to 201 for the Republicans), the leadership’s proposal seems to have little chance of advancing, since Republicans are nearly united against it and Democrats are split, with some conservatives saying it goes too far in aiming to wind down the war in Iraq and liberals saying it does not go far enough.

Ford to Give Bonuses to All

By Nick Bunkley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DEARBORN, MICH.

Ford Motor Co., which had been criticized by union leaders over the prospect of bonuses for management, said on Thursday that all of its employees would receive a “modest” bonus.

Ford is rewarding its workers even though it lost a record \$12.7 billion last year and mortgaged most of its assets to make sure it would have enough cash to complete its revamping and cover expected losses from automotive operations.

“Last year, though we fell short of our profit and market share goals, we made significant improvements in quality and cost savings,” Ford’s chief executive, Alan R. Mulally, told employees in an e-mail message Thursday.

Workers represented by the United Automobile Workers or the Canadian Automobile Workers union will receive \$500. Bonuses for other nonmanagement employees range from \$300 to \$800. Workers in management-level positions will receive “higher, but still modest, awards that will proportionately reflect the metrics that were achieved in 2006,” Mulally said.

Europe Divided on How To Fight Global Warming

By Dan Bilefsky

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Divisions over how to fight global warming threatened on Thursday to overshadow a summit meeting aimed at making the European Union the world leader in the battle against climate change.

European leaders are expected to approve plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent by 2020 as part of an effort to reduce the bloc’s dependency on oil and gas exports. But governments of the union’s 27 member countries are at odds over other issues, including whether renewable energy targets should be binding and whether nuclear energy should be supported.

Speaking before the meeting, which began on Thursday, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany, whose country holds the rotating European Union presidency, said the need to use more renewable sources was a matter of urgency. “It’s not five minutes to midnight,” she said. “It’s five minutes after midnight.”

US General Sees Long Fight, Maybe More Troops For Iraq

By Richard A. Oppel Jr. and Alissa J. Rubin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

The new U.S. commander in Iraq, Gen. David H. Petraeus, warned Thursday that U.S. troops here faced a long road ahead and left open the possibility of calling in even more soldiers as he described the difficult task of calming the country.

In a broad review of the challenges he faces, Petraeus suggested the need to be open to working with some of the groups at the center of Iraq’s security struggle: He said the future of the Mahdi Army, the ubiquitous Shiite militia that has fought battles with U.S. troops, should be left up to Iraqi leaders and noted that many countries had “auxiliary police.” He also suggested that political dialogue with some Sunni militants and Sunni leaders was crucial to finding a solution for problems that military action alone would never be able to fix.

Petraeus repeatedly stressed the long-term nature of the troop increase, but his assertions about the need for open-endedness in the U.S. commitment came as congressional

Democrats in Washington worked toward a fixed date for withdrawal.

He said there were no “looming” requests for additional troops and that he had not yet taken a position on an assessment by the second-ranking commander in Iraq, Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, that the greatly enlarged U.S. force remain until February 2008.

But he added, “If you’re going to achieve the kinds of effects that we probably need, it would need to be sustained certainly for some time well beyond the summer.”

Military officials in Iraq have indicated that they would need a large U.S. troop presence for at least a year and likely far longer to achieve lasting stability. For now, Congress seems persuaded to give Petraeus’ strategy a year to yield results, setting the summer of 2008 as a deadline for the return of all troops.

Petraeus’ open-ended strategy appeared to be an effort to avoid a repeat of the pattern that has doomed past U.S. efforts to halt the insurgency. In hot spots including Tal Afar and Diyala, U.S. soldiers have cracked down on insurgents and then reduced the U.S. presence only to see

insurgents retake old ground.

In his first extended public comments since taking over one month ago, the 54-year-old commander cited a handful of early favorable indicators since U.S. and Iraqi forces began sweeping through militia- and insurgent-dominated neighborhoods and building new outposts as part of a Baghdad security plan widely seen as a last-ditch effort to stave off civil war.

“While too early to discern significant trends, there have been a few encouraging signs,” Petraeus said. “Sectarian killings, for example, have been lower in Baghdad over the past several weeks than in the previous month.” He also said fewer families were being forced out of homes by sectarian gangs and that troops had uncovered significant illegal stashes of bombs and weapons.

But he emphasized that successes had come with devastating setbacks. “Schools, health clinics and marketplaces have all been attacked,” he said. “Car bombs have targeted hundreds of innocent Iraqis,” including worshipers in Habbaniya and college students in Baghdad.

Slip of the Tongue, \$90 Million Donation Unexpectedly Leaked

By Daniel J. Wakin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

An anonymous donor has promised \$90 million for the Frank Gehry-designed future home of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Fla., one of the largest gifts to a classical music institution.

The news was good for the orchestra — a professional-level ensemble that trains young conservatory graduates for life in a symphony — but premature.

Orchestra officials said Thursday that they had hoped to announce the gift in the fall, when ground is to be broken on the project. But a board member, Neisen O. Kasdin, let word drop on Tuesday in presenting the building’s plans before the Miami Beach Design Review Board, irritating the orchestra’s marketing staff. The meeting was routinely videotaped and posted on the city’s Web

site.

Howard Herring, the orchestra’s president and chief executive, said the commitment was made two years ago. “We intend to honor this gift by making our contribution to the future of classical music,” Herring said.

The new building will include a 700-seat hall, practice rooms, offices and state-of-the-art media and technical equipment. The project includes a small park and a parking lot. It will sit on Lincoln Road, a boulevard of restaurants, clubs and souvenir shops.

The orchestra plans to raise about \$200 million for the project, including \$50 million for the endowment.

The board member overseeing the fundraising drive, Howard Frank, said the \$90 million promise had been crucial in persuading other donors and board members to come forward with their dollars. The

orchestra has an additional \$35 million yet to raise; about \$45 million is expected to come from local government, Frank said. Money will also come from the sale of the orchestra’s current home, a converted movie theater on Lincoln Road.

Orchestra officials declined to discuss the donor.

New World, which calls itself America’s Orchestral Academy, has long been flush, thanks in part to Ted Arison, the founder of Carnival Cruise Lines, who was the driving force in its founding. Arison, who died in 1999, contributed more than \$60 million. His widow, Lin, remains a major contributor.

While \$90 million is not huge for hospitals or universities, it is for musical institutions, particularly one with an \$8.5 million budget. In 2005, an anonymous donor pledged \$100 million to the Yale School of Music.

WEATHER

The Chill is Over

By Michael J. Ring

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

After a bitterly cold first week of March, the temperatures will finally moderate this weekend as the prevailing wind shifts from northwesterly to southwesterly. The frigid temperatures of the past few days — with low temperatures dipping down into the single digits for several mornings — has been the coldest March weather in Massachusetts in over half a decade. With a strong high pressure system pulling offshore today, the winds will shift direction in its wake and we will enjoy more seasonable temperatures.

There is not much else to report across the country today. A cold front is forming over the Lower Mississippi Valley, so thundershowers should stretch from Texas to Missouri. Another cold front will bring rain to the Pacific Northwest. For most of the United States, however, dry weather should prevail today and for the weekend.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny but still cold. High 35°F (2°C).

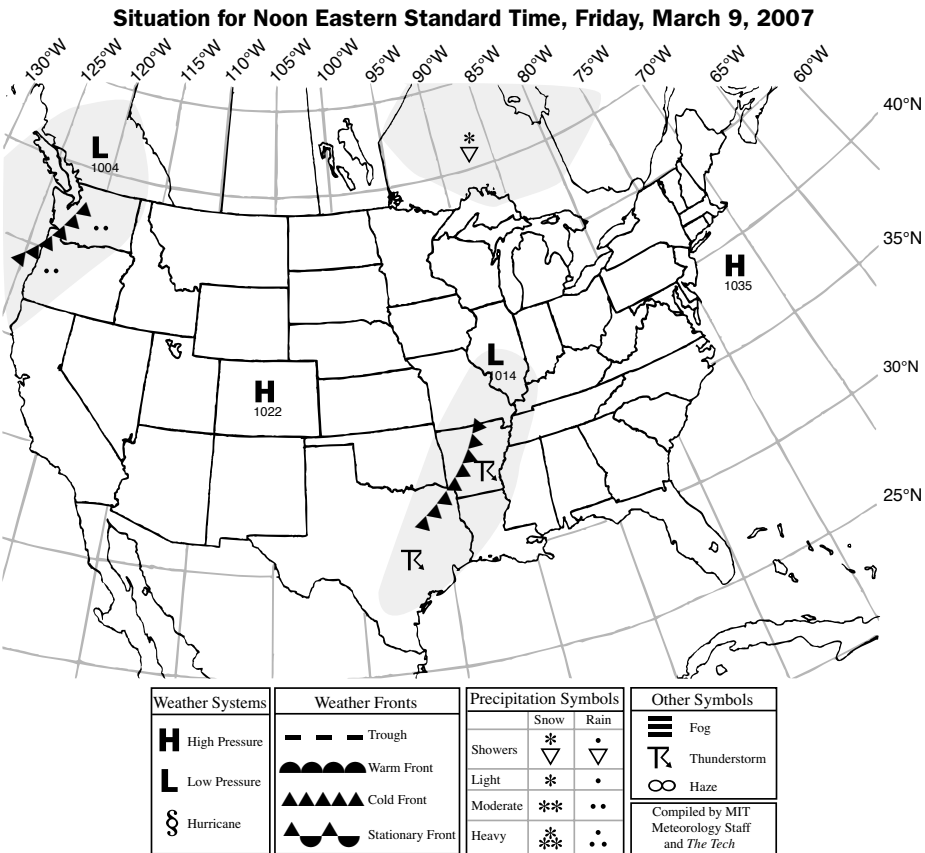
Tonight: Clear, much milder night. Low 28°F (-2°C).

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and warmer. High 50°F (10°C).

Tomorrow night: Mostly cloudy. Low 40°F (4°C).

Sunday: Showers. High 52°F (11°C).

Monday: Sunny. High 45°F (8°C).



OPINION



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Corrections

The March 6 article “CME Being Funded Another Year” mistakenly stated that applications for the Cambridge-MIT Exchange “are due in the next few weeks.” Actually, the deadline has already passed and the evaluation process has been started, although interested students can still contact their departments or the Study Abroad Office to submit an application, according to Malgorzata Hedderick, assistant dean for the Study Abroad Office.

Letters To The Editor

A Hollow Defense For Misguided Forum

Raffaella L. Wakeman's letter to *The Tech* (“Responses to Controversial Forum are Misleading”) is, itself, misleading. Her letter was the latest in the ongoing debate over the event “Foreign Policy and Social Justice: A Jewish View, A Muslim View,” at which an anti-Semitic Imam and an anti-Israel Rabbi were chosen to give the Muslim and Jewish views. Many people on campus feel that it was inappropriate to give that title to the event, as neither speaker has the support of the community he was held out as representing. Some also take issue with MIT-funded groups like the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences providing funding to an event for anti-Semitic and anti-Israel speakers. Others, including Ms. Wakeman, the VP of the Forum on American Progress (which co-sponsored the event), support it. She made six points to which I feel the need to respond.

1. She is correct that Rabbi Weiss was one of the few speakers at Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's Holocaust denial conference to say that the Holocaust did happen and that the death toll has not been exaggerated. He also, however, claimed to have documentation proving that the secular Zionist Jews had collaborated with the Nazis to kill off the more religious Jews. He said he was unable to elaborate on the nature of that documentation due to time constraints. This is dishonest hate-speech of the worst kind.

2. She is again correct that Weiss is Jewish,

and therefore his opinion constitutes “A Jewish view.” No one's arguing that the event title is false, just that it is intentionally misleading. The vast majority of Jews disagree with Weiss, so it is dishonest to claim that he represents “A Jewish view,” even if that is literally correct.

3. Her third point, that FAP was not involved in the selection of speakers, is a thinly-veiled attempt to pass the buck. By funding the event, FAP and SHASS put their money and their support behind it. If they knew what they were funding, then they are responsible for it. If they did not know what they were funding, then next time they should do their homework better.

4. Wakeman argues that Jewish opinions were sought before the event, and in response the title of the event was changed and the rarity of Weiss' views was mentioned at the event. That doesn't change the fact that the forum brought purveyors of hate speech to MIT. The event title sounds like the title one might give to a reasoned debate between moderates on both sides, not to an event with one anti-Israel speaker and one full-blown anti-Semite. All the organizers did was make the event a bit less misleading than it would have been otherwise.

5. Wakeman says SHASS and FAP merely wanted to foster debate. There are good ways and bad ways to achieve that goal. A good way to achieve it would be a debate between two people on opposite sides. A bad way to achieve it is a misleading event that completely shafts and offends one side so severely that they feel the need to make a lot of noise to correct the misconceptions the event created and express

their disapproval. Guess which one happened here?

6. Wakeman's final point is about free speech. I think free speech means that all groups can speak their views. I also think people have a responsibility to use their right to free speech in productive ways, not to propagate lies and hatred. If people say harmful things, they should be criticized for it.

Free speech means that if the Ku Klux Klan wants to hold a rally, it can. If other groups want to say what they think of that rally, they can do so, too. In a university environment, free speech means that these people should be allowed on campus to speak. But by providing a space and funding for this event, SHASS, FAP, and the Social Justice Cooperative went beyond allowing the speakers free speech. They gave a forum to purveyors of lies and hate speech. That's less like the US government protecting the right of the KKK to hold that rally, and more like the US government paying to set up the stage and provide refreshments.

Jeff S. Cohen G

The Little Words Matter

I'm very sorry to have to say that Jeremy B. Katz's argument on his March 6 letter is simply wrong. I would understand his point (and share his outrage) if the event he is referring

Letters, Page 5



Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

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Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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In Search of Meaning: Beyond the Veritas Forum

Rahmat Muhammad

Last week, MIT hosted the Veritas Forum on Science, Faith, and Technology, purportedly to address whether religious belief can be effectively reconciled with scientific pursuit. Veritas began with a Harvard group on a “quest for a life with hope, meaning, and purpose.” The event’s speakers (and its parent Web site) argued that the individual can and should believe in Christ, and did their best to convince non-religious but “meaning-seeking” members of the scientific community (and to reassure the religious) that belief in Jesus Christ and Christianity can satisfy both the need for a meaningful life and a career in science.

The issue is an important one, and the forum addressed a need: people do search for meaning in their lives. However, I would like to set forth an alternate — and Jesus-free — definition of “meaning” (and I welcome critiques of this definition), based on which I will suggest that scientific knowledge is meaningless, technology is meaningful, and that technology, but not science, should be guided by some sort of belief/value system.

By my definition, lives and actions find meaning when they are directed at something bigger than themselves. It seems to me that leading a meaningful life goes hand in hand with performing some sort of action and directing it outwardly. Using this definition, most people would agree with the statement that Mother Theresa had a meaningful life though they would also have to agree that Jihadists also have meaningful lives. Mother Theresa was driven to outwardly directed ac-

tion by a system of beliefs and values and so is your average Jihadist. The belief systems are different but this difference does not render one life meaningless next to the other (though we can judge the consequences of one to be good and the other bad).

A meaningless life seeks nothing beyond itself and all (if any) action is directed inwardly. By its own declaration, meaningless existence, or “emptiness,” is what the Veritas Forum is most concerned with curing. The event held at MIT was designed to administer this cure to the scientific community. But do we really need to be cured?

Veritas may not be trying to convert anyone, but they are trying to impose Christian values on those who may not have had a clear prior conception of where to find meaning in their lives. An outwardly directed action requires guidance by a value system, but this system does not have to be Jesus-centered, or even religious at all. It is just as possible — and just as potentially problematic — to apply other systems of belief, (e.g. Islam or Judaism) as a way to guide science. So the better question is: can and should religious values guide the pursuit of science and technology?

Science places great significance on the freedom of inquiry and discovery. When practiced in its purest form, its only aim is to seek truth and knowledge. Scientific truth, indeed truth in general, is intrinsically value

neutral (you cannot have good truth and bad truth) and the scientific pursuit is not directed towards any goal other than obtaining knowledge for its own sake. Therefore, when a scientist enters the lab, her religion should stay at the door in order to ensure that she can seek value neutral, objective truth. Similarly, research institutions have a duty to create an environment where arbitrary value systems do not obstruct or bias the search for truth. On the other hand, universal ethical values (such as those predicating guidelines for the humane treatment of research subjects) obviously do serve a purpose.

By the definitions above, the search for scientific truth is by its very nature meaningless, since it is inward-acting rather than goal-directed. This does not imply, however, that a scientist’s life is necessarily meaningless. A scientist can choose to ascribe to a belief/value system and use it in guiding decisions and actions that arise in his personal life.

Unlike science, technology has a directed goal to perform some sort of action outwardly. This makes technology a meaningful pursuit, and therefore more amenable to guidance by a value system. This value system should be carefully defined by research institutions in full awareness of the community’s strong desire to see its newly acquired knowledge used in a positive way.

There is no doubt that technology has to be guided towards a meaningful end but this

end can be anything from vaccines or nuclear weapons. How do we decide which ends to choose? In situations like this, religious values, insofar as they are universals, can be legitimate guides but should not be considered the sole source of guidance.

In the course of human history, well before the three Middle Eastern religions became organized, human beings from Aristotle in the West to Lao-Tzu in the East gave thought to life’s hardest questions and left behind works of ethical philosophy to help us in this very pursuit of meaning. Unfortunately, in popular culture ethical philosophy tends to take a back seat to religious platitudes.

I don’t intend to argue that religion is useless; indeed any discussion of the pursuit for meaning provides a welcome alternative to selfish individualism. However, religion is the Cliff’s Notes version of ancient philosophy and we all know that Cliff’s Notes produces not only incomplete summaries but also superficial interpretation.

The Veritas Forum promotes passive submission to an established religion, rather than a deeper examination of the search for meaning. As the cultivators of intellectual development, institutions of higher education have a duty to ensure that organizations like Veritas do not dominate the discussion in the search for meaning. Places like MIT should not allow this opportunity to be hijacked by well-meaning but closed-minded individuals seeking to impose a religious agenda. The university must see to it that the pursuit for meaning remains an active pursuit rather than a passive submission.

Rahmat Muhammad G is a graduate student in Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

Research institutions have a duty to create an environment where arbitrary value systems do not obstruct or bias the search for truth.

Letters To The Editor, continued

Letters, from Page 4

to had promised “The Jewish View, The Muslim View” on foreign policy and social justice. However, it instead advertised “A Jewish View”, and therefore no offense can be taken, nor can it be argued that there was any dishonesty on the part of the organizers and sponsors of the event. Since Rabbi Weiss is Jewish, his opinion is by definition a Jewish opinion, no matter how wrong, right, controversial or orthodox it is. This said, adult listeners attend any conference at their own peril. They should inform themselves about the speakers beforehand, and be prepared to be critical and check any dubious claims afterwards. At the very least, they should be able to tell apart an indefinite article from a definite one.

Sandro Diez-Amigo G

SJC’s Partisan Motives Obvious

Ali S. Wyne’s letter (March 6, 2007) confirms what I surmised about the event “Foreign Policy and Social Justice,” that it was organized wholly by the Social Justice Cooperative (SJC), with co-sponsorship by the Forum on American Progress (FAP) and the Dean’s Office of SHASS. Wyne writes, “I am not in a position to assess the motivations of the Social Justice Coopera-

tive.” I would accept that sentiment as genuine. However, one could guess the SJC’s motives by looking at their homepage (<http://web.mit.edu/justice/www/>). A quick look through that page would show that far from being an advocate of open dialog on the subject, the SJC is an intense partisan in the conflict. My guess it that the SJC recognized that a forum run entirely under their own auspices would be seen a propaganda and thus sought out co-sponsorship from the FAP and SHASS.

A suggestion for those interested in promoting dialog on a controversial issue is that when an outside group organizes a forum and asks you to sponsor their forum for dialog, look for diversity of viewpoints in the panel, as opposed to diversity of identity. If the panel leans towards one side of the issue, then research the organizer to determine if they seem more like a neutral party interested in dialog or more like a partisan interested in promoting its own viewpoint.

Scott J. Smith ’95

Delta Zeta Article Does Not Represent MIT Panhel

We as MIT’s Panhellenic Association support Delta Zeta Sorority and DePauw Univer-

sity in their efforts to seek a positive outcome after the recent events covered in the media. Delta Zeta has been accused of operating a superficial membership review in an effort to reorganize a chapter. In a letter on Delta Zeta’s national Web site, they recognize mistakes were made in the communication process and are working to resolve this matter. Like the five sororities on MIT’s campus, Delta Zeta is a member of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), and we trust that they will rely on our common values in their current efforts.

MIT’s Panhellenic Association seeks to foster personal development, empower, and enhance the lives of women in the MIT community in order to embrace our role as the largest women’s organization on campus. We seek to reaffirm our commitment to recruiting diverse members, supporting women in their endeavors, and championing women’s issues on campus.

We are proud to promote our Panhellenic values in many ways. Our members are leaders in various activities, both on and off campus: in ASA, UROPs, class council, and dorm roles among others. We promote scholarship in the MIT community and amongst our members through such programs as events with faculty and faculty advising. Each MIT sorority is committed to recruiting members on the basis of their dedication to the community, their leadership aspirations and their

ideals. We value diversity within our chapters, and continue to support inspirational women, irrespective of their race and/or ethnicity. We pride ourselves on the support network we offer to all of our sisters, both at MIT and after graduation. Along with scholarship, we promote personal integrity and service to others, and actively contribute to improving the MIT community.

While we share common values and goals, we celebrate the diversity of our chapters and individual members. If you have any questions, Panhel welcomes any interest in what sororities represent on campus and the values we uphold.

Mariah N. Hoover ’08
Alpha Chi Omega President

Elizabeth Katcoff ’08
Alpha Epsilon Phi President

Laura N. D’Aoust ’08
Alpha Phi President

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Annika S. Larsson ’08
Panhel President

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ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

Chorallaries Leave Bad Taste in Eager Mouths

Evening Filled With Dead Celebrities, Google, Facebook, and a Hunger Strike

By Nick Semenkovich
STAFF WRITER
Nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste
MIT Chorallaries
March 4, 2007, 10:59:59 p.m.
10-250

It was my first time at Bad Taste and I had no idea what to expect. I had heard tales of offensive skits, outrageous songs, and lines snaking through the MIT buildings, but, quite frankly, I believed none of them. I'd seen worse, right? They couldn't offend me. Or so I thought As I traversed the ridiculous line of people outside of 10-250 (quite a few of whom appeared to be imbibing a viscous fluid...), I realized that I was in for a true MIT experience. Inside 10-250, the boards were covered with an assortment of offensive drawings (Ever seen Hello Kitty — AIDS Kitty?), a great play on "Dick in a Box," and an interesting charge to the IFC: Whoever gets Hockfield's daughter first wins! Following a chant of "gonorrhea" from the audience, God (Benjamin M. Schwartz '06) addressed the crowd, producing a list of people to

be offended. Steve Irwin drew noticeable jeers, as did Christopher Reeve (and his wife, too). And thus started what would be a couple of the most memorable and offensive hours of my life. The Chorallaries' performance was an artful interweaving of skits and songs. Three main skits clearly dominated the evening: Google as a person, Survivor - Afterlife Edition, and Story Time with the Administration. The songs were also well done (playing on Facebook, freshman year experiences, being 'emo,' and more), but were sometimes difficult to hear amidst shouts of "Holly Johnson is hot!" and torrents of Athena cluster paper emanating from the audience. Google (Schwartz) was eerily reminiscent of a stalker following around a search user (Michael R. Blaisse '10), drawing information from search, Gmail, and Google Calendar. Google seemed to know the answer to every question and when he didn't, Google's commonly-vandalized friend Wikipedia (Katya A. Jarrell '08) was called in (Did you know that the di-electric constant is the number of people killed by licking power lines each year?). Google did have a few problems answers questions about Tinnanmen Square; "Of course I know about it!"

said Google. "I just lie to Chinese people. You should always lie to Chinese people." Survivor — Afterlife Edition was the longest skit, with dead contestants vying for entry into heaven. Anna Nicole Smith (Yelena S. Bagdasarova '10) drew shouts of 'Trimspa Baby,' while Christopher Reeve (Michael R. Blaisse '10) seemed unable to lift his arms to shield himself from incoming toilet paper rolls. Poor Smith showed some confusion about the difference between paralyzed, parallel, and pasteurized. Eventually, Saddam Hussein (Jared C. Sadoian '10) gained entry into heaven after serving as George W. Bush's (Akash A. Chandawarkar '09) guardian angel. Unfortunately, the skit was split up by a song and smaller skits, which made it a bit difficult to follow. The clear audience favorite was Story Time with the Administration, where the children's story Green Eggs and the Man detailed Professor James L. Sherley's departure from sustenance and his talks with the administration; "Would you, could you, in a shack? You live there already. You are black." LSC-style cue-cards prefaced small skits, "Your Mom! ... In Stereo!" was a great chant, although the appearance of Schrödinger's equation was a depressing reminder of the state of MIT's union. Musical Theatre Guild's cast of Reefer Madness made a cameo appearance that started off a bit rough, but quickly gained the crowd's support. There were a few other noteworthy sketches, such as "101 Other Meanings of OLPC" (One Laptop Per Child), including "oral lovers please call," "old ladies push crack," and "omit lube, penis chafes." There was "KY-40 — from the makers of WD-40," as well as a handful of skits which ended when anyone said "bomb," prompting intervention by the Boston Police Bomb Squad. This year, the traditional Top 10 list featured "The Top 10 Ways to Get an Asian Girl at MIT," including "give her a single beer," and "be the only straight guy in Dance Troupe." The show ended with "The Engineer's Drinking Song," including some custom-written and — true to the spirit of the show — offensive verses by the Chorallaries. The edgy, hysterical evening was clearly an essential MIT experience. And although it wasn't in great taste, that was, after all, the point.

A List of The Offended

- Anna Nicole Smith
- Saddam Hussein
- Steve Irwin
- Gerald Ford
- Richard Nixon
- Christopher Reeves
- Christopher Reeves's Wife
- James Brown
- Jesus
- George Bush
- The Power Rangers
- Gay Men
- Gay Power Rangers
- Native Americans
- Grandmothers
- Sorority Girls
- Fraternity Boys
- Homeless People
- Arushi Dugar
- Your Mom
- Google
- Mac Users
- PC Users
- People with Vaginas
- People without Vaginas
- Emo Kids
- The Cross Products
- Guys in Dance Troupe
- Professors on Crash Diets
- Professors off Crash Diets
- Jews
- Pirates
- Dead People
- People with Tiny Penises
- People who would wait outside for two days to see this concert
- Course 7
- Course 15
- Course 21
- The Boston Bomb Squad
- Snakes
- BU Students
- Suffolk Students
- MIT Students
- YOU

SOURCE: CHORALLARIES' LIST



THANHLONG LAM

Tess E. Wise '10, Karena K. Tyan '08, and YeeKwan Lo '08, listen as Michael R. Blaisse '10 spins a children's story spoofing Professor James L. Sherley's recent hunger strike.

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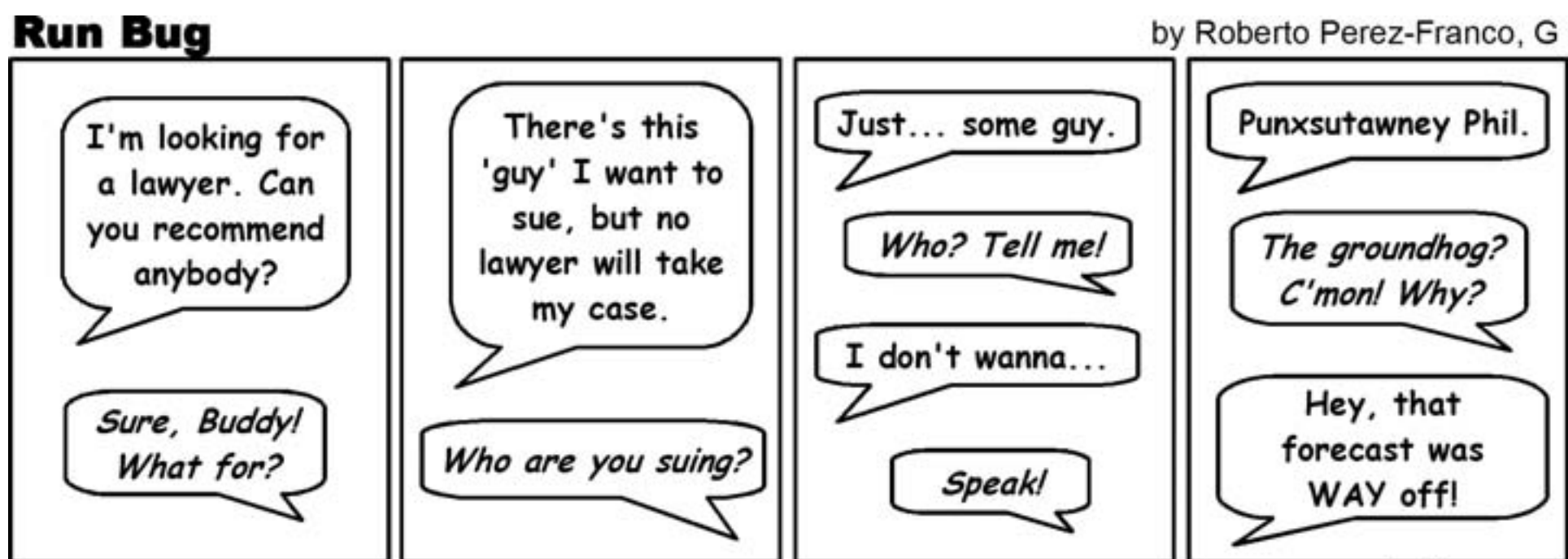
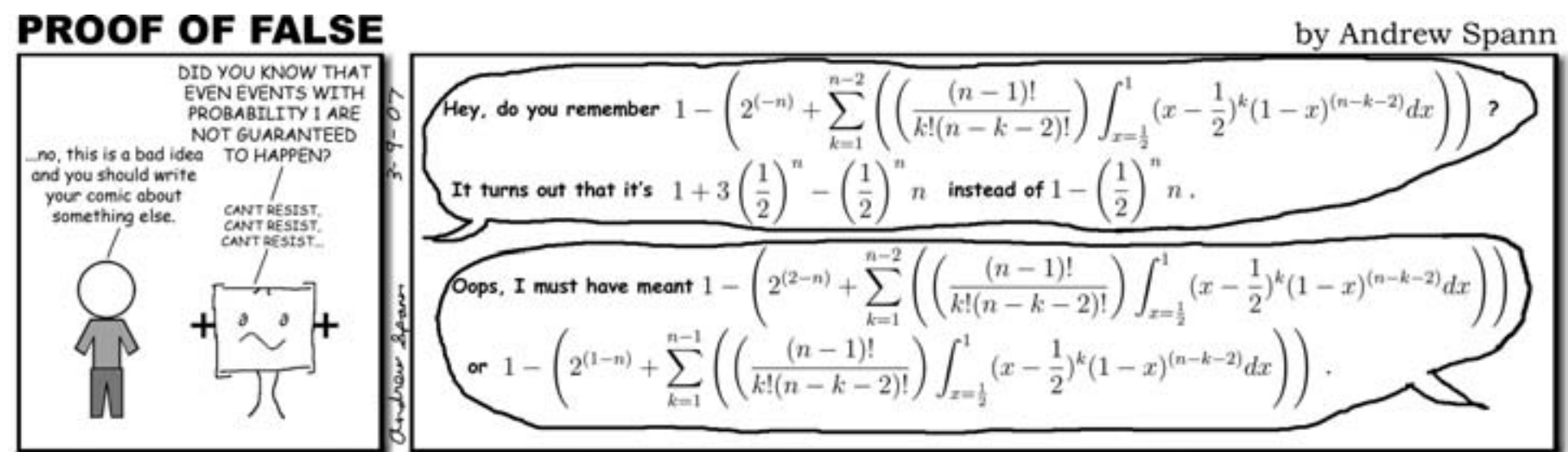
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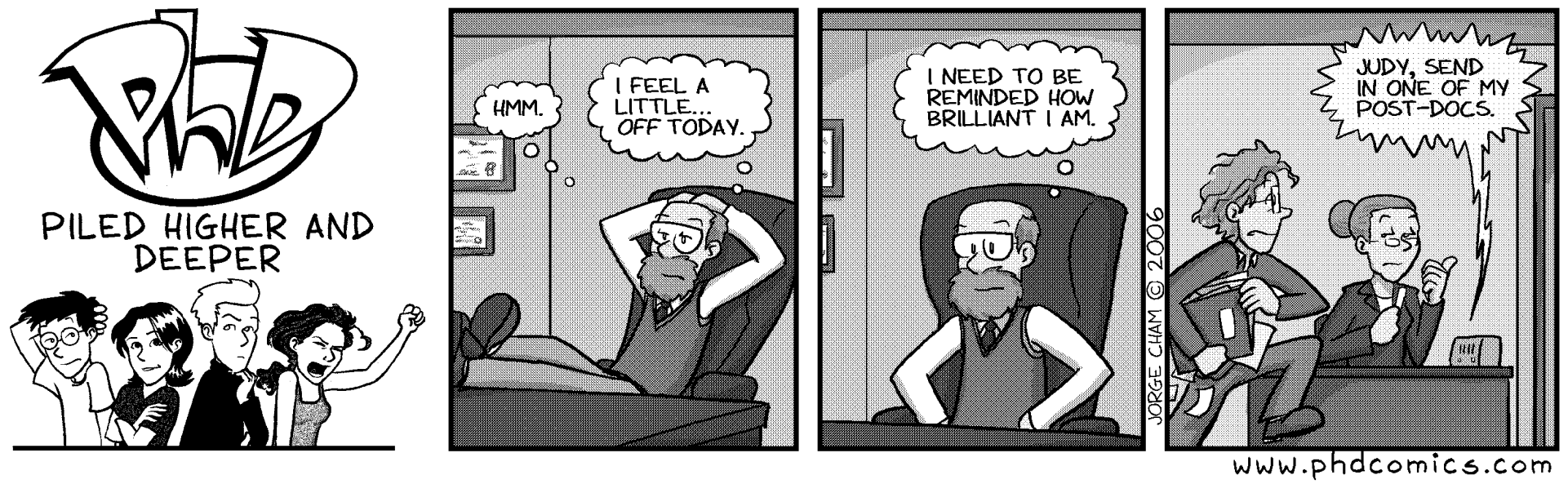
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Crossword Puzzle
Solution, page 12



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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column,
row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one
of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 12.

Annual Tussle of Treats Calls On Literature, History, Engineering

Debate, from Page 1

evening, prepared a presentation on the “Hamentashen Homotopy: The Superior Form,” in which he argued that the hamentash has a “rich relative homotopy,” or mapping in space, and is metaphorically likened to a purse with a delicious filling. He went on to incorporate the Hurewicz theorem of algebraic topology, but chose to simplify the math for the audience by focusing on the hamentashen’s geometry.

Specifically, Jerison cited a long lost Buddhist Kabbalah secret, appropriately called “The Three-Fold Way,” that involves carefully observing the octagonal Baptistery of St. John along certain lines to the vanishing point to produce specific triangles. These triangles, once drawn on a 2-D plane and specially oriented, can be folded inwards to form the hamentashen shape. Jerison finished by explaining that the hamentashen can be closed completely or left partially open to reveal the filling, and that “no matter how you bake it, we have an open and shut case.”

What the H stood for

Opening for the Latke side with a “Give Latkes a Chance” presentation, Kaiser examined the hamentash’s place in post-WWII US history. He explained that the hamentashen’s “menacing topology” was the actual focus of the General Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission, and that although Fermi had initial calculations which suggested the inability of hamentashen ingredients to reach a critical temperature for fusion, Teller and Ulam were eventually able to devise a working H-bomb (Hamentash-bomb) design. Claiming that his “bones shake” every time he sees a picture of hamentashen, Kaiser warned the audience of the “mind-boggling destructive power of hamentashen,” as it could easily have the same devastating effects as the atomic bomb.

Catch the appetite of the King

Next to defend the hamentashen was Ouellette, who turned to Elizabethan literature as his main source. He claimed that once he was able to decode a “secret text,” he uncovered numerous references to hamentashen. He noted Shakespeare’s apparent and previously unheard of appreciation for the hamentashen, as made evident by the food’s appearances throughout Hamlet. In fact, because of an early orthographic error, Ouellette explained, the title of the famous Shakespearean play is a mistake and is actually Hamlat, which clearly emphasizes the hamentashen before

the latke. Ouellette then rounded out his seven minutes with passionately delivered soliloquies from Hamlat.

But I only ate two, Brute

Ostrow picked up the latke side, taking the audience back to classical Athens and Rome, detailing the histories and respective reputations of both delicacies throughout this time period. Although he admitted that the hamentashen’s reputation was initially ranked higher than that of the latke, the hamentashen suffered a fatal decline around the time of ancient Rome, as people began suffering gall stone attacks due to the prune filling.

In addition, the great commander, “Hannibalke,” helped spur the latke’s rise in the 3rd century BC. Hannibalke, who upon marching into northern Italy after crossing the Pyrenees and Alps, had just “missed the spaghetti harvest but was fortunate enough to have with him fine American spuds to make a new improved latke,” said Ostrow. He then closed by refuting Ouellette’s claim of Shakespeare’s appreciation for the hamentashen: Caesar’s famous line actually referred to a fatal consumption of hamentashen.

Driven into the dirt

“It’s a tragedy to see a fine scholar make up facts,” quipped Wolfe before beginning his presentation on, “The Potato and the Iconography of Evil.” Taking a biblical perspective in defending the hamentashen, Wolfe focused on the story of Adam and Eve, since “the apple is a late entry and the real icon of the fall is the potato.” He then asserted that the depicted figures in various pieces of historical artwork are picking not from fruit trees, but red bliss and baking potato trees. Although Wolfe conceded that potatoes do not grow on trees anymore, he found recent research by a respected early text scholar that revealed a variant in the Genesis. This, he explained, completely changes a famous line to, “...but from the evil potato tree you shall not eat, for on the day you eat from it, you will die.”

Wolfe ended his argument with scientific fact, presenting the results of a 1998 study by Sadoway, Saddestway, and Saddestway which detailed the effects of secondhand latke consumption. Another study revealed that lab rats work much harder for latkes, but that does not necessarily mean latkes are better, Wolfe argued, as cocaine completed the upward trend on the graph.

A reinvention of the wheel

Sussman, the only engineering

professor on either panel, defended the latke from an engineering perspective by describing how latkes are compatible with the suffix “-ilities,” describing its flexibility, durability, portability, manufacturability, and sustainability. In terms of mobility, “the latke is simply a reinvention of the wheel, and the hamentashen would be only effective for transportation purposes at Harvard,” said Sussman.

After a three minute break, Jerison opened the hamentashen rebuttal by arguing that the latke’s circular shape is the “enemy of truth,” as it represents circular reasoning, whereas the hamentash represents the “del” operator. He then addressed Sussman’s argument by defending the hamentashen’s commitment to sustainability — the hamentashen is of the same shape as the recycling symbol.

Closing for the latke team, Kaiser pointed to public safety concerns, saying the hamentash was a risk due to high sugar content.

As the debate closed with rebuttals presented by Jerison and Kaiser, Sadoway determined a split-vote from the audience members and declared that the debate will reconvene next year.

Two Brown University Students Start Group Focusing on Equality

Affirmative Action, from Page 1

A similar case was brought up in 1998, when Henry Park, ranked 14th at the prestigious boarding school Groton, was rejected from several elite universities, including four Ivies, MIT, and Stanford.

In Daniel Golden’s *The Price of Admissions*, MIT Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones said, “It’s possible that Henry Park looked like a thousand other Korean kids with the exact same profile of grades and activities and temperament ... yet another textureless math grind.”

Jones was unavailable for comment on the Li issue.

The question of whether Asian-American students are held to a higher standard by admissions officers has also garnered attention on other cam-

pus. Two sophomores from Brown University, Neil Vangala and Jason Carr, have started a group on campus called Asian Equality in Admissions. One of the initial goals of the group was to encourage Asian American applicants to leave the question of race on applications blank.

Vangala and Carr have since redefined their goals and are now trying to “investigate and identify possible sources of discrimination in Brown University’s admissions process; to educate and inform students of the possible discrimination; and to promote institutional transparency,” said Vangala. The group is currently working with other multi-cultural groups to obtain a student government resolution that would submit a formal request for data to the administration. The students both support affirmative action as a method for correcting past and present forms of injustice.

“Asian applicants are the biggest winners if race is no longer considered in admissions.”



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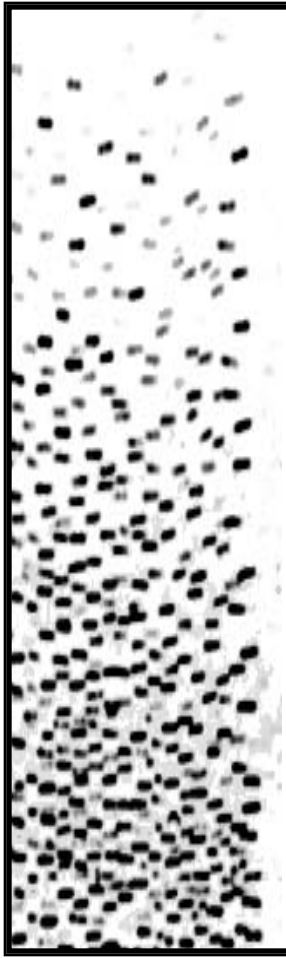
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Broad Institute Receives Large Gift For Psychiatric Research

By Carey Goldberg
THE BOSTON GLOBE

The Broad Institute, the genomics powerhouse in Cambridge, Mass., announced Wednesday that it will receive what it believes is the biggest gift ever for psychiatric research to a single US institution: \$100 million to decipher the genetics of severe mental illnesses.

The money comes from the Stanley Medical Research Institute, a family philanthropy based in Maryland. It will be used largely to gather and analyze thousands of DNA samples from people with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, in hopes of determining the complex genetics behind the diseases.

Only in the last year or so has gene-scanning technology reached the point that scientists think that aim is realistic, said Dr. Edward Scolnick, who oversees the Broad's psychiatric research. Researchers at the Broad and elsewhere are also using these genomic tools to make inroads on cancer, diabetes, and other

diseases.

For mental illness, it could take several years to determine the key genetic risk factors, Scolnick said. But once that is done, "You can start developing new approaches for diagnosis, new targets for treatment, new understanding of which drugs to use in which people, and turn it into a rational science. That's the Holy Grail."

It has long been clear that schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, which afflict more than 6 million Americans, run in families. But the specific genes involved have proven largely elusive.

The symptoms tend to vary so greatly among patients that schizophrenia, for example, may actually be a handful of different diseases.

Complicating matters further, they are believed to stem from multiple genes that might be different from patient to patient, along with factors in a patient's environment.

Given that complexity, researchers believe they need many DNA samples to pick up the tricky genetic signals: perhaps as many as 10,000 for each disease, along with 10,000 from people without the disease for comparison, Scolnick said.

That DNA then needs to be scanned in its entirety for genes correlated to the disease, which is where the Broad's expertise comes in. The institute has been developing ever-faster and cheaper methods

Broad Institute, Page 11



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Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between Feb. 16 and Mar. 7, 2007. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, larcenies, or medical shuttles.

Feb. 21: W20 (84 Mass Ave.), 6:23 a.m., Check on subject in W20 2nd floor, Micheal J. Kreisel, 240 Albany St., Cambridge, MA. Taken into custody for outstanding default warrant.

Feb. 22: M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 4:24 p.m., Suspicious person escorted from the area.

Feb. 23: M9 (105 Mass. Ave.), 9:43 a.m., Malicious damage to glass door.

Feb. 27: M10 (122 Mem. Dr.), 9:38 a.m., Package left unattended, questioned owner.

Feb. 28: E60 (30 Mem. Dr.), 3:53 p.m., Complaint of phone scam.

Mar. 1: W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 6:52 a.m., Suspicious female person at Student Center, trespass warning issued.
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 6:23 p.m., Report of someone throwing away large quantity of the Cambridge Chronicle newspaper.

Mar. 2: W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 8:09 a.m., Two suspicious people sleeping in 2nd floor lounge of W20. Marvin McKinnon, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA taken into custody for a default warrant.

Mar. 3: PBE (400 Mem. Dr.), 12:38 a.m., Noise complaint.
111 Bay State Rd., 6:19 p.m., Suspicious male in lobby, escorted out of residence.
TC (528 Beacon St.), 11:40 p.m., Report of individual who would not leave the area.

Mar. 4: BTP (119 Bay State Rd.), 1:44 p.m., Report of loud music, Boston Police responded.

Mar. 7: E2 (70 Amherst St.), 10:05 a.m., Suspicious person, issues trespass warning.

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E-mail Upgrade Plans Examined

E-mail, from Page 1

duplicate file system. According to Schiller, po14 mail files are split into four partitions, each with roughly 1,000 users. Three of the partitions were intact, allowing roughly 3,000 users to regain e-mail; one of the partitions was corrupt, requiring manual repairs.

In an e-mail, Jerrold M. Grochow '68, vice president for IS&T described the outage as "an unacceptable length of time for e-mail to be unavailable to 20 percent of our community." Grochow also outlined a project to provide "completely redundant" mail service that began in early 2006 with the goal of completion in Summer 2007.

Schiller said plans to upgrade e-mail would be finalized in the next week, but considered complete redundancy extremely difficult to attain. One option under consideration is to break apart MIT's five large mail servers into 40 or more servers, so that an outage would impact fewer users and could be repaired more quickly.

Outside services such as Google have offered to run MIT's e-mail, but Schiller is wary of the security and privacy of such services. "Whose mail is it anyway?" he asked.

Michael McGraw-Herdeg contributed to the reporting of this article.

Money Will Benefit Genomic Research

Broad Institute, from Page 10

for genomic analysis, so that it can now scan a patient's sample for half-a-million genetic variations at once. In a couple of months, said Eric S. Lander, the Broad's director, that will be up to a full million.

"If you're looking for a needle in a haystack, and you can sift the whole haystack, you'll find the needle," Lander said.

Other research groups have begun tackling the genomics of serious mental illnesses, and the National Institute of Mental Health maintains a huge repository of DNA from people with mental illness, said Dr. Tom Insel, the federal institute's director. But only recently has it become clear from work with other complex diseases that to crack the genetics of bipolar disorder or schizophrenia, many more samples are needed than had been thought, he said.

The gift to the Broad "is exactly the right thing at the right time at the right place," Insel said. "We now have the ability to do a lot of the genetics we couldn't do two years ago, and there's probably no better place than the Broad to do that."

The gene-scanning results will be posted publicly, he said, so that all researchers will have access to the data. After the initial sweeping scans of a patients' full DNA, researchers will then need to "drill down" into targeted areas of DNA to piece apart where exactly the genetic problems lie, he said.

Then, researchers say, comes the really hard part: figuring out how the genes act to produce the disease.

The Broad, a joint institute of Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be using "the full armamentarium of modern genomics," Lander said.

Call for Nominations 2007 Student Art Awards

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The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/wiesner.html>

LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 award to the honoree.

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/sudler.html>

Please send nominating letters (by email or campus mail) by **Friday March 23, 2007** to:
Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT- E15-205
cohen@media.mit.edu

Buy your ticket now: <http://gsc.mit.edu/gradgala>

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SPORTS

Men's Volleyball 3rd Of Twelve Teams At March Mania Invite

By Mindy Brauer
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

The nationally-ranked No. 10 MIT men's volleyball team recorded its best outing at the Endicott College March Mania Invitational this past weekend as it finished in third place out of a field of 12 teams.

The Engineers (21-2) opened the tournament by defeating Villa Julie College (30-22, 30-23, 30-15) and No. 13 SUNY New Paltz (32-30, 25-30, 30-27, 23-30, 15-7). On Sunday, Tech fell to No. 7 Nazareth College (30-26, 30-32, 30-27, 30-21) in the semifinals but bounced back by sweeping Hunter College (30-22, 30-23, 30-26).

Praveen Pamidimukkala '08 was selected to the All-Tournament Team after receiving Honorable Mention plaudits last year.

Pamidimukkala posted the first of his three double-doubles during the weekend as he tallied 15 kills and 12 digs to go along with four blocks against Villa Julie. Thomas S. Pollom '09 notched 13 kills and a .706 hitting percentage in addition to a team-high three aces. Michael Demyttenaere '10 contributed nine kills and seven blocks while Philip M. Rogoz '10 totaled 36 assists, eight digs, and six blocks.

MIT's five-game victory over

New Paltz extended the Engineers' winning streak to 17, which broke the previous Institute record of 16 consecutive wins set in 2005. Pamidimukkala paced Tech with 18 kills, 17 digs, and two aces while Eric R. Reuland '10 registered 14 kills and 12 digs. Pollom picked up 10 kills and four blocks as Demyttenaere led the way with six stops. Rogoz registered 42 assists and 11 digs, while Matthew Ng '08 and Ryan G. Dean '08 anchored the back line with 15 and 14 digs, respectively.

Three Engineers reached double-figures in kills in their loss to Nazareth. Pamidimukkala led the way with 17, followed by Pollom's 16 and Reuland's 13. Demyttenaere paced the blocking corps with six stops as Reuland registered a team-high eight digs. Rogoz and Dean each collected seven digs as Rogoz distributed 51 assists.

Pollom had another strong outing against Hunter as he amassed 11 kills on 15 errorless attempts for a .733 hitting percentage and accounted for both of MIT's aces. Demyttenaere recorded 11 blocks as Dean led the Engineers with 12 digs. Pamidimukkala tallied 18 kills, 10 digs, and five blocks while Reuland added 12 kills with a .421 hitting performance. Rogoz dished out 40 assists in MIT's consolation match win.

Men's Gymnastics Places Second At New England Championships

By Jeff Lemieux
SPORTS INFORMATION ASSISTANT

Boris Rasin '09 and Bradley J. Sutton '07 secured the top two spots in the all-around gymnastics competition to help the Engineers to finish second of six at last weekend's New England Invitational Championships hosted by Springfield College.

Springfield won the event with a score of 186.550, while MIT (181.900) and James Madison University (164.900) rounded out the top three.

Also competing with incomplete teams were defending cham-

pion Temple University (129.350), University of Vermont (123.850), and a team from USA Gymnastics (64.800). Individuals representing SUNY-Brockport and a number of other clubs also took part in the invitational.

Rasin grabbed the all-around crown for the second straight competition with a season-high score of 47.500 — more than two full points higher than teammate and second-place finisher Sutton, who amassed 45.450.

The Engineers picked up individual victories in two events, as Rasin was tops among all competitors in the still rings (8.650) and Thomas S. Caldwell '09 won the high bar with a

point-total of 8.250.

Joshua S. Coblen '08 notched the Cardinal and Gray's best score in floor exercise with an 8.000, which was good enough for second place in the event. Meanwhile, Sutton was the best Engineer in pommel horse (8.400), vault (7.300), and parallel bars (8.250).

R. J. Heflin, representing the club Gym and More, was impressive, winning the floor exercise (8.950), pommel horse (9.200), and parallel bars (9.000).

MIT will return to Springfield and Blake Arena on Sunday, March 11, when it will compete in a tri-meet against Springfield and the College of William and Mary at 2:00 p.m.

Zimmerman's 38.250 Helps Engineers Split a Tri-Meet to End Season 3-14

By Jeff Lemieux
SPORTS INFORMATION ASSISTANT

MIT's Julia C. Zimmerman '09 continued her stellar season by breaking her own Institute record in the all-around competition with an incredible score of 38.250 on Saturday afternoon in the duPont Gymnasium, helping the Engineers defeat Div. II West Chester University in the campaign's final home meet.

The Cardinal and Gray finished the afternoon with a score of 180.575, enough to top the Golden Rams (174.375), but not enough to overcome Div. III powerhouse SUNY-Brockport, which totaled 187.600 points.

With the split, Tech concluded the season with a dual-meet record of 3-14. Brockport finished out its regular season schedule at 15-7 following the win, while West Chester fell to 3-13 with the loss.

Zimmerman's winning all-around score of 38.250 was good enough to top the previous MIT mark of 38.175 that she had set herself a mere three weeks ago. The point-tally also propelled Zimmerman past two-time Div. III National Champion Sarah Bulka (38.150) of Brockport for

the second time this season. Bulka's teammate, Lauren Gildemeyer, placed third with a score of 38.025.

The Engineers began on the vault, with Laura E. Kelly '09 setting the tone for the rest of the afternoon by performing a solid pike tsuk, (short for Tsukaharas, a kind of twisting vault), good for a 8.950. Sarah N. Trowbridge '08 (9.100), Katie M. Mingo '10 (9.150), and Sophia L. Harrison '08 (9.375) all followed with impressive performances, while Zimmerman was Tech's top scorer with a 9.600.

MIT then moved on to the uneven bars, where it broke the 45.000 point-barrier for the first time this season en route to a score of 45.150 — a full two points higher than the team's season average in the event. Alison M. Barnard '09 (8.550) and Ashley T. Tran '07 (8.525) put on strong showings to lead the Engineers off, while Trowbridge (9.050), Kelly (8.850), and Harrison (9.075) continued the squad's balanced performance. Zimmerman closed out the event for the Cardinal and Gray with a season-high score of 9.625, good enough for first-place.

MIT struggled uncharacteristically on the beam, as only Kelly (8.725) and Zimmerman (9.450) conquered

the event without a fall.

Lara L. Hershcovitch '07 led off for the Engineers with a score of 8.700 on the floor exercise, which served as the final event of the afternoon. Zimmerman was impressive, notching a 9.575, while Harrison proved that she had finally returned to full capacity following a back injury with a 9.300.

Head Coach Jen Miller McEachern singled out her two graduating seniors, Hershcovitch and Tran, for specific praise following the final home meet of their collegiate careers.

"These two women were a breath of fresh air when they came to MIT four years ago," she said. "They have played a huge role in fostering the team spirit that exists on this team today. We experienced a small dose of reality in realizing that these two incredible captains won't be returning next year, and we thank them tremendously for their contributions."

The two captains' leadership will be essential for the Engineers next week, as they travel to Ithaca, N.Y., to participate in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships, hosted by Ithaca College on Saturday, March 10 at 1:00 p.m. MIT hopes to secure a spot at nationals with a solid performance.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, March 10, 2007

Men's Volleyball vs. Newbury 11:00 a.m., Rockwell Cage
Men's Lacrosse vs. UMass-Dartmouth 1:00 p.m., Jack Berry Field
Men's Volleyball vs. Carthage 3:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Sunday, March 11, 2007

Men's Tennis vs. Colby 1:00 p.m., J.B. Carr Tennis Bubble



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INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday, March 15

7:00 p.m.

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Application Deadline – Thursday, March 22 Midnight

More information and online application available at:
www.mckinsey.com/leadershipsummit

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